

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

IO-10 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 (ISO) W

----- 115515

R 181330Z JUL 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1149

SECDEF WASHDC

INFO USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 MBFR VIENNA 0377

MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 14-20, 197

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BEGIN SUMMARY: AT THE CONCLUDING JULY 17 PLENARY MEETING
OF THE SIXTH ROUND OF THE VIENNA TALKS, US REP AND
SOVIET REP KHLESTOV DELIVERED STATEMENTS REVIEWING
ELEMENTS BASIC TO THE RESPECTIVE WESTERN AND EASTERN
NEGOTIATING POSITIONS. US REP ALSO
DREW ON RECENTLY APPROVED NATO GUIDANCE TO ELABORATE ON
THE WESTERN APPROACH TO FLANK SECURITY. EAST AND WEST
HELD END-OF-ROUND PRESS CONFERENCES FOLLOWING THE
PLENARY MEETING. THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION CONTINUED
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THE DIALOGUE ON FORCE DEFINITIONS AND ALSO INCLUDED A

STATEMENT BY EACH SIDE OF ITS ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. IN SUMMING UP FOR THE EAST, POLISH REP (STRULAK) COMMENTED THAT GOVERNMENTS AND PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BE GIVING INCREASED ATTENTION TO VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF CSCE. END SUMMARY.

1. IN THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION DISCUSSION AGAIN FOCUSED ON THE DEFINITIONS ISSUE. SOVIET REP KHLESTOV DECLINED TO AGREE TO WESTERN SUGGESTIONS ON TWO GENERAL OBJECTIVES OF A DEFINITION: THAT IT SHOULD BE BOTH COMPREHENSIVE AND SERVE TO DIVIDE ALL PERSONNEL INTO GROUND AND AIR FORCES. HE DECLINED TO DO SO IN THE ABSENCE OF A WESTERN REACTION TO EASTERN SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE THREE TYPES OF FORCES WHOSE ALLOCATION IN THE WESTERN DEFINITION TO GROUND OR AIR FORCES THE EAST HAS DISPUTED. KHLESTOV SUGGESTED THAT PARTICIPANTS RETURN TO THE SUBJECT OF DEFINITIONS FOLLOWING THE SUMMER RECESS.

2. KHLESTOV PROPOSED THAT: (A) ALL HELICOPTER PERSONNEL, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THOSE "LEGALLY AND ORGANIZATIONALLY ASSIGNED TO THE AIR FORCES," BE ALLOCATED TO THE GROUND FORCES; (B) ALL GROUND-BASED TERRITORIAL AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL (THAT IS, THE POLES AND THE CZECHOSLOVAKS) BE ASSIGNED TO THE AIR FORCES; AND (C) FRG TACTICAL SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILE PERSONNEL BE ASSIGNED TO THE GROUND FORCES. HE SAID THE EAST WAS WILLING TO CONSIDER PLACING ALL HELICOPTER PERSONNEL IN THE AIR FORCE. IN FURTHER COMMENT, HE BACKED AWAY FROM HIS STATEMENTS IN THE INFORMAL SESSION OF JULY 8 THAT, AS LONG AS SIMILAR FORCES ON BOTH SIDES WERE ASSIGNED EITHER TO AIR FORCES OR GROUND FORCES, IT DID NOT MATTER TO WHICH OF THESE TWO MAIN CATEGORIES THEY WERE ASSIGNED.

3. US REP DESCRIBED THE WEAKNESSES OF THE EASTERN ENUMERATIVE APPROACH, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE LISTING ALL TYPES OF FORCES IN ORDER TO BE COMPREHENSIVE. HE SAID THAT, IN ADVOCATING THE ASSIGNMENT OF THE THREE TYPES OF FORCES AS MENTIONED ABOVE, THE EAST APPEARED TO BE

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ACCEPTING THE ILLUSTRATIVE SUGGESTION WEST HAD MADE LAST FALL REGARDING SOME HELICOPTER PERSONNEL AND THE POLISH AND CZECHOSLOVAK GROUND-BASED TERRITORIAL AIR DEFENSE PERSONNEL. HOWEVER, US REP ADDED THAT, SINCE THE EAST HAD NOT ACCEPTED AT THAT TIME OR AT PRESENT THE WESTERN REQUIREMENT ADVANCED AT THE TIME, CONCERNING THE EXCHANGE OF DATA AND AGREEMENT TO LIMIT REDUCTIONS TO GROUND FORCES, THE WEST WAS NOT INCLINED

TO PURSUE THE MATTER FURTHER.

4. IN PROVIDING EASTERN ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, POLISH REP PRESENTED A LONG CRITICISM OF WESTERN PROPOSALS, CLAIMING THAT THE POSITION OF THE WEST ON ASYMMETRY, PHASING, AND REFUSAL TO INCLUDE AIR FORCES AND NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS IN REDUCTIONS BLOCKED THE ROAD TO MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE AGREEMENTS. ONLY NEW POINT WAS STATEMENT THAT GOVERNMENTS AND PUBLIC OPINION WOULD BE GIVING INCREASED ATTENTION TO VIENNA NEGOTIATIONS FOLLOWING CONCLUSION OF CSCE. THE JULY 15 INFORMAL SESSION ENDED WITH FRG REP (BEHREND) SUMMARIZING MAJOR POINTS OF THE ALLIED POSITION MADE DURING THE PRESENT ROUND.

5. AT THE JULY 17 PLENARY MEETING, THE US REP'S STATEMENT REFERRED TO WESTERN DISAPPOINTMENT OVER FAILURE OF THE EAST TO ACKNOWLEDGE CENTRAL POINTS MADE BY THE WEST CONCERNING THE EFFECTS OF AN MBFR AGREEMENT FOR WESTERN SECURITY. IN THE WESTERN VIEW, THE OBJECT AT VIENNA WAS TO REDRESS RATHER THAN, AS THE EAST IN EFFECT HAD PROPOSED, TO CONTRACTUALIZE EXISTING GROUND FORCE DISPARITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE. THE US REP REVIEWED THE RATIONALE FOR A PHASED REDUCTION APPROACH, NOTED THE UNACCEPTABILITY OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL CEILINGS ADVOCATED BY THE EAST, AND MADE EXPLICIT THE NEED TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT IN LARGER EASTERN REDUCTIONS THE EFFECTS OF MANPOWER LIMITATIONS RESULTING FROM ANY REDUCTIONS AGREEMENTS.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07

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SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 NSC-05

BIB-01 (ISO) W

----- 115513

R 181330Z JUL 75

FM USDEL MBFR VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1150
SECDEF WASHDC
INFO USMISSION NATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
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MBFR NEGOTIATIONS

FROM US REP MBFR

6. DRAWING UPON THE LATEST NATO GUIDANCE, US REP ELABORATED ON THE ISSUE OF FLANK SECURITY. HE SAID THE WEST WOULD "IN DUE COURSE" TABLE A SPECIFIC AGREEMENT PROVISION TO IMPLEMENT THE PRINCIPLE OF UNDIMINISHED SECURITY AS IT APPLIED TO FLANK COUNTRIES. THE WEST HOPED TO RECEIVE CONSIDERED EASTERN VIEWS ON ALL THESE MATTERS "EARLY IN THE NEXT ROUND."

7. IN HIS PLENARY STATEMENT, SOVIET REP STATED THAT THE MOVEMENT OF CSCE TOWARD A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION MADE MORE URGENT TASK OF ADDING MILITARY DETENTE TO POLITICAL DETENTE. THE NOVEMBER 1973 EASTERN DRAFT AGREEMENT PROVIDED PRACTICAL BASIS FOR DOING SO IN STRICT ADHERENCE TO PRINCIPLES AGREED TO IN THE PREPARA-
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TORY TALKS. AN AGREEMENT MUST CONFORM TO THE EXISTING REALITIES IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND NOT, AS WESTERN PROPOSALS SOUGHT, CONFER UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE ON THE WEST.

8. SOVIET REP CRITICIZED THE ASYMMETRICAL APPROACH ADVOCATED BY THE WEST AND WESTERN UNWILLINGNESS TO REDUCE ARMAMENTS AND TO BRING AIR AND NUCLEAR FORCES WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS, STRESSING NEED TO REDUCE NUCLEARS. HE COMPLAINED THAT THE WESTERN POSITION AS TO REDUCTIONS COMMITMENTS BY DIRECT PARTICIPANTS OTHER THAN THE US AND SOVIET UNION HAD HARDENED DURING THE PRESENT ROUND. OVER THE SAME PERIOD, WEST HAD CONFINED ITSELF TO ATTACKING THE EASTERN POSITION WITHOUT OFFERING ANY NEW PROPOSAL OF ITS OWN. THE SOVIET REP TOOK CREDIT FOR THE CURRENT DIALOGUE ON FORCE DEFINITIONS AS A NEW EASTERN INITIATIVE AND CALLED UPON THE WEST TO REFLECT UPON THE EASTERN PROPOSALS TABLED TO DATE WITH A VIEW TO TAKING POSITIVE STEPS TOWARD ACHIEVEMENT OF AN AGREEMENT IN

THE NEXT ROUND.

9. THE TRADITIONAL END-OF-ROUND PRESS CONFERENCES FOLLOWED THE PLENARY MEETING. THEY ATTRACTED MODEST TURNOUT OF ABOUT 20 EASTERN AND WESTERN MEDIA REPS. VEILED REFERENCE BY EASTERN SPOKESMAN (STRULAK) TO NEW EASTERN FORCE DEFINITIONS INITIATIVE DURING THE SIXTH ROUND AROUSED SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST. HIS SUBSEQUENT INABILITY TO ADEQUATELY DEAL WITH REPORTERS' QUESTIONS ON THE SUBJECT GENERATED FRUSTRATIONS. ALLIED SPOKESMAN (DE VOS) FOLLOWED STRULAK AND RECEIVED GENTLE HANDLING. HE EFFECTIVELY REGISTERED POINTS THAT WEST HAD LONG AGO SOUGHT TO PURSUE FORCE DEFINITIONS WITH THE EAST IN THE CONTEXT OF AN EXCHANGE OF DATA AND THAT DEFINITIONS WITHOUT DATA HAVE LIMITED UTILITY.

10. THE VIENNA TALKS RECONVENE ON SEPT 22. THE NEXT PLENARY SESSION WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE SEPT 26. RESOR

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS CONTROL MEETINGS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, BALANCE OF POWER, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MBFRV00377
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750249-0052
From: MBFR VIENNA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750743/aaaabmdb.tel
Line Count: 242
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2003 by Izenbel0>; APPROVED <17 OCT 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR NEGOTIATIONS: SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD JULY 14-20, 197 5
TAGS: PARM, US, UR, NATO, (MBFR)
To: STATE DOD
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006